1: Dube E-5 (1951-52) 1955 AW17 Telugu AW17

They mostly hunt small game, and are adept in the use of traps, snares and dogs. At the time of these investigations there were six guns in the village; and occasionally their owners went out shooting. Similarly, fishing is done by very few people, mostly by some young Muslim men. They do not use fishing nets and traps, and practically the only method employed by them for catching the fish is that of using the rod, hook and bait. The large tank in the vicinity of the village could afford a good supply of fish, but the absence of the fishing caste in the village population leaves this possibility almost unexplored. Fishermen from the neighbouring villages, however, periodically come to the tank.

The surroundings of Shamirpet offer very few opportunities for the collection of wild food. Around the village there are not many fruit-bearing trees. Mango and *jamun* (rose apple, *Eugenia jambolana*) fruits are mostly eaten while they are still unripe by the village boys. Parties of children and young people periodically go to pick wild berries when they are in season. These are mostly eaten on the spot. When wild figs are ripe children collect and eat them. Another item of food eagerly sought by everyone is the *chikur*—tender tamarind leaves. These leaves are curried, as well as pickled and preserved. Honey is collected by some men of lower castes and inferior social status, whenever they can spot a comb. Medicinal herbs, roots, tubers and barks are collected according to need.

Utilization of forest resources is not open to everyone now. From the surrounding scrub jungle villagers can collect only a limited quantity of fuel, as this—as well as getting timber—is regulated by the Forest Department of the government, and permits can be obtained only by making scheduled payments.

Different kinds of coloured earth used in washing walls and decorating the interiors of homes, as well as the ordinary requirements for the construction of houses, can be freely collected by the people. The Vaddars can break and shape stones without having to pay for them.

6. NON-AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS

In an effort to explain the broad outlines of the economic organization of the community, the traditional occupations and functions of the different castes have already been described. With reference to the inter-relations between the agriculturists

311 651 Panchayat for instance in Bayyavaram Forest Panchayat in Vizagapatam, the rate of grazing per cow was Re 0-6-0, per buffalo Re. 0-12-0 and per sheep Re. 0-3-0 and for fuel each chit for head-load was charged at only Re. 0-0-6.

The grazing rates in Bellary for instance again varied similarly from one Forest Panchayat to another. In Chigetheri Forest Panchayat whose extent in area was 2686.83 acres, the rates of grazing permits were Re. 0-5-0 per cow, Re. 0-10-0 per buffalo, and Re. 0-2-6 per sheep. In Haskanhal, the rates were Re. 0-6-0 per cow. In Kodattu the rates for cow, buffalo and sheep were Re. 0-6-0, Re. 0-12-0 and Re. 0-3-0, respectively.

[314] The income from minor forest produce also varied from one Forest Panchayat to another depending on the nature of the forest produce available, i. e. Tangedu, Avaram, Garualmia, Margosa, sandal-wood, Kasangaddi, Kluesklues, Tamarind, Mustard and the game like deer, peacock, dove, etc.

[316] Quarrying fees were collected in Panchayats like Bayyavaram in Vizagapatam and Betamcherla in Kurnool. Such examples were to be found even in Bellary.

Bayyavaram Forest Panchayats usually sold the fuel coups at a cost not less than Rs. 1000, remitting the same to the treasury. Of this only 10 per cent was given to the Panchayat. It sold fuel dead-woods at Re. 0-0-6 per head load, Re. 0-6-0 per cart-load, Re. 0-1-0 per shoulder-load etc., and levied quarrying fees of Re. 0-2-0 and Re. 0-1-0 per cart load of chisled and unchisled stone respectively.

Income from fuel coups was rarely seen except in Panchayats of the Ceded Districts as that of Bellary, e. g. Jaga the biggest toward Hospet and Dhemaketupalli near Hindupur, in Anantapur. Here the Government of the neighbouring four areas were keeping their wood in Government Depots. The ordinary dead wood was allowed to be sold as usual on the basis of permits.

311 652 One peculiar feature of the budget of the Forest Panchayats was the large balances that accrued from year to year. There was no systematic planning of expenditure for useful purposes by these Panchayats. Panchayats were responsible for the payment of watchers, pay and dress, maintenance and the protection of the reserves from damages of illicit grazing, fire, and theft of firewood and forest produce, the preservation of cairns, the cleanliness, orderliness, etc. Greater the extent of the Panchayat area, greater the number of watchers and greater consequently was the expenditure.